


## REMARKS

The objections made to the Amendment filed 08/15/2002 in the paper mailed 08/28/2002 are believed to have been overcome with this Response. The Application is now believed to be in condition for reconsideration and allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted



Clyde I. Coughenour  
Reg. No. 33,083

Clyde I. Coughenour  
16607 Sutton Place  
Woodbridge, VA 22191-4627  
(703) 221-8677

Revision of Claims 4 and 15 with markings to show changes made.

4. An earthquake resistant structure as in claim 3 wherein:  
said parallelepiped blocks placed in the form of an arch have their intrados ends abutting each other and their extrados ends spaced from each other;  
concrete is within [said] a space between said blocks extrados ends.
15. A process for forming construction blocks as in claim 14 including:  
forming said blocks into the shape of an arch such that said blocks abut each at their intrados ends and are spaced from each other at their extrados ends;  
filling [said] a space at said extrados ends with concrete to hold said blocks in place.

Version of page 14 with markings to show changes made.

An arch can be formed from blocks that have sides that essentially radiate from the central point about which the arch extends. The sides of the blocks are essentially frictionally in contact with each other along the entire length of their sides.

An arch **90** can be formed on a supporting structure, such as shown in Fig. 9. A base for the arch can be formed by use of molds. After the mold is formed pieces of stone or aggregate such as ballast, broken stones and/or other coarse aggregate **91** are prepacked in an abutting relationship with the molds and each other. The low quality materials are assembled within the mold so as to be in firm contact with one another. Mortar **92** is then poured into the mold to hold the aggregate in place and to form the base for the block. This technique allows the various low quality materials, such as recycled materials and chipped stones, to be used as the prepacked materials with the [mo0rtar] mortar used only to keep the aggregate in position. No mixing of coarse aggregate and mortar is required so there is no additional concrete plant expenses for cleaning, new processing steps, and installation.

For forming the next course or adjacent area, the mold can be moved to an adjacent location or other area, or another mold can be used. For this next layer, aggregate is placed in the mold and assembled, then, as before, mortar is poured in with the upper surface shape monitored or controlled to prevent a smooth surface. This process is repeated on both sides of the arch support to provide a base for raising the arch along the predetermined course. The roughened sides **93** frictionally engage each other. The keystone is formed in a similar manner to complete the arch. A prestress means **94** can be provided.